

Message Text

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ACTION NASA-02

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R 231358Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7830

UNCLAS MOSCOW 13284

DEPT PASS NASA FOR JAFFE

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: TSPA, UR, US

SUBJECT: SPACE AGREEMENT: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT 04.04.00

REF: (A) STATE 207840, (B) MOSCOW 13194,

1. MESSAGE REFTEL A DELIVERED AUGUST 23 TO PRISEVOK FOR KHODAREV.

2. INTERKOSMOS REACTION AFTER HALF DAY OF DISCUSSIONS IS THAT, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, USDEL SHOULD COME AUGUST 30. WEATHER CONDITIONS IN OCTOBER ARE NOT GOOD FOR FLYING. BY THE SECOND HALF OF OCTOBER, PRISEVOK REPORTS, IT IS UNLIKELY THE EXPERIMENT COULD TAKE PLACE AT KURSK.

3. COMMENT: PRISEVOK DID NOT SAY "NOW OR NEVER." HE WAS SYMPATHETIC TO THE PROBLEM EXPRESSED BY JAFFE IN AUGUST 20 LETTER. PRISEVOK WAS TRYING TO BE HELPFUL BY SAYING THAT THE DATA COLLECTION MISSION HAS A BETTER CHANCE OF SUCCESS NOW THAN IN A MONTH. SHOULD IT PROVE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE USDEL TO COME AUGUST 30, AN ALTERNATIVE DATE COULD BE DISCUSSED EVEN THOUGH PRISEVOK DID NOT SAY SO IN SO MANY WORDS.

4. THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE CALLS FOR THE USDEL TO ARRIVE IN MOSCOW AUGUST 29, GO TO KURSK BY TRAIN THAT SAME NIGHT, AND ARRIVE IN KURSK THE MORNING OF AUGUST 30.

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